

Well, that's what I hope we'll do. I think we ought to have the standards. You should set them. We'll support you however you want. But they won't work unless you're going to really see whether the standards are being met and unless there are consequences to those who meet and to those who do not. I think you have to reward the good teachers and get more good people in teaching and that we have to facilitate the removal of those who aren't performing.

I think the schools need more authority and should be held more accountable. We've got to redo these central school budgets until we have squeezed down the overhead costs and put it back into education. And unless we have an environment in which there is safety and discipline, we won't succeed. And if we do have an environment in which the business community brings in more technology, we will succeed more quickly.

I believe that this meeting will prove historic. And again, let me say, I thank the Governors and the business leaders who brought it about. In 1983 we said, "We've got a problem in our schools. We need to take tougher courses. We need to have other reforms." In 1989 we said, "We need to know where we're going. We need goals." Here in 1996, you're saying you can have all of the goals in the world, but unless somebody really has meaningful standards and a system of measuring whether you meet those standards, you won't achieve your goals. That is the enduring gift you have given to America's schoolchildren and to America's future.

The Governors have to lead the way, the business community has to stay involved. Don't let anybody deter you and say you shouldn't be doing it. You can go back home and reach out to all the other people in the community because, in the end, what the teachers and the principals and more importantly even what the parents and the children do is what really counts. But we can get there together. We have to start now with what you're trying to do. We have to have high standards and high accountability. If you can

achieve that, you have given a great gift to the future of this country.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:25 p.m. in the Watson Room at the IBM Conference Center. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Bob Miller of Nevada, NGA vice chairman; Gov. Tommy G. Thompson of Wisconsin, NGA chairman; Louis Gerstner, chief executive officer, IBM; Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., of North Carolina; Gov. Terry E. Branstad of Iowa; Gov. Carroll W. Campbell of South Carolina; Gov. Tom Carper of Delaware; Gov. Gaston Caperton of West Virginia; Gov. John Engler of Michigan; Gov. Roy Romer of Colorado; and Albert Shanker, president, American Federation of Teachers.

### **Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report on Radiation Control for Health and Safety**

*March 27, 1996*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with section 540 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360qq) (previously section 360D of the Public Health Service Act), I am submitting the report of the Department of Health and Human Services regarding the administration of the Radiation Control for Health and Safety Act of 1968 during calendar year 1994.

The report recommends the repeal of section 540 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act that requires the completion of this annual report. All the information found in this report is available to the Congress on a more immediate basis through the Center for Devices and Radiological Health technical reports, the Radiological Health Bulletin, and other publicly available sources. The Agency resources devoted to the preparation of this report could be put to other, better uses.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
March 27, 1996.

**Message to the Congress  
Transmitting the Report on the  
Trade Agreements Program**

*March 27, 1996*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 163 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2213), I transmit herewith the 1996 Trade Policy Agenda and 1995 Annual Report on the Trade Agreements Program.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
March 27, 1996.

**Proclamation 6874—Death of  
Edmund Sixtus Muskie**

*March 27, 1996*

*By the President of the United States  
of America*

**A Proclamation**

As a mark of respect for the memory of Edmund Sixtus Muskie, one of our Nation's foremost public servants, I hereby order, by the authority vested in me as President of the United States of America by section 175 of title 36 of the United States Code, that the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff upon all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions on Saturday, March 30, 1996. I also direct that the flag shall be flown at half-staff on that day at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval vessels and stations.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-seventh day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., March 29, 1996]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 28, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on April 1.

**Remarks Announcing the “One  
Strike and You’re Out” Initiative in  
Public Housing**

*March 28, 1996*

Thank you. You know, when we were walking over here, Leora said she was nervous. I don't think she told the truth. *[Laughter]* I'm just glad she's not on the ballot this year. *[Laughter]* Didn't she do a great? I want to thank Leora Robinson and Lieutenant Ramirez. They both spoke so well and so passionately, and they spoke the truth. They spoke on behalf of the mayors, the police chiefs, the housing administrators, and the residents who are here and people all across America. And I thank them.

I thank the Members of Congress who are here; and Mr. McGaw, the head of the ATF; and my friends the mayors who are here, and especially—I know the mayor of Toledo is a proud mayor today, hearing these two fine people speak. I thank the Vice President for the work that he has done in our whole community empowerment initiative, trying to give people all over America control of their lives again. And I want to echo what the Vice President said; it is literally an inspiration for me to have the opportunity to work with Henry Cisneros, a man who believes that all problems can be solved and goes about proving it day-in and day-out. I thank you, sir, for what you have done.

In my State of the Union Address I challenged local housing authorities and tenant associations to adopt this “one strike and you're out” policy to restore the rule of law to public housing, to simply say, “If you mess up your community, you have to turn in your key. If you insist on abusing or intimidating or hurting other people, you'll have to live somewhere else.”

It seems so simple, it's hard to imagine how we ever went so wrong. Public housing was created with a simple purpose in mind, to provide good, inexpensive homes for good, hard-working people, so they could care for their children, hold down their jobs, and